



NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BREATH ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICES

Breath Alcohol Ignition Interlock Devices (BAIIDs) are instruments designed to prevent drivers from starting their car when their breath alcohol concentration (BrAC) is at or above an alcohol setpoint. Drivers convicted of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) may be required to use these devices on their car under court supervision.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently issued model specifications for BAIIDs in the *Federal Register*. The purpose of these specifications is to establish performance criteria and methods for testing these devices. States are encouraged, but not required, to adopt these model specifications as their own, with modifications as necessary to meet any of their special needs. They are intended for use in certification testing of BAIIDs used under court supervision.

The model specifications provide guidelines for accuracy and performance under various stress conditions (e.g., extreme temperatures, vibrations, power levels) as well as adequacy of features to prevent circumvention and tampering.

States that have Passed BAIID Legislation

Alaska	Kansas	Ohio
California	Louisiana	Oregon
Delaware	Maryland	Tennessee
Florida	Michigan	Texas
Hawaii	Minnesota	Washington
Idaho	Nevada	West Virginia
Indiana	New York	Wisconsin
Iowa	North Dakota	

A short technical report, *Alcohol Ignition Interlock Service Support*, has been prepared which summarizes the necessary components for establishment of a comprehensive State breath alcohol ignition interlock program, including suggested procedures for ensuring the quality control of ignition interlock instruments in the field. Based on a review of existing research and in-place ignition interlock programs, this report makes it clear that once a program has been implemented, careful recordkeeping and clearly specified management procedures between interacting state agencies are prerequisites for programs to accomplish their objective of preventing impaired driving by convicted DWI offenders. The short report includes the following chapters:

1. Introduction to Interlock Programming
2. Elements of a Typical Certification Program
3. Recertification and Quality Assurance Testing

The Model Specifications for Breath Alcohol Ignition Interlock Devices is available in the April 7, 1992 issue of the *Federal Register* (57FR11772). The short technical report titled *Alcohol Ignition Interlock Service Support* is also now available. It should prove useful for states when they are setting up comprehensive statewide ignition interlock programs.

For additional information about the model specifications or the companion technical report, contact: Office of Program Development and Evaluation, Traffic Safety Programs, NHTSA, NTS-32, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590.



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